



USPTO Rec'd PGT/PTO 07 DEC 2005 PCT

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| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 10/553,959 | |
| | Filing Date | October 19, 2005 | |
| | First Named Inventor | Akihiko HIRATSUKA et al. | |
| | Group Art Unit | 3749 | |
| | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 740250-894 |

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration and Power of Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Corrected Filing Receipt with Enclosures <input type="checkbox"/> A self-addressed prepaid postcard for acknowledging receipt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): PTO-1449 with nine (9) references listed and International Search Report. |
| Remarks | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2380 for the above identified docket number. |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Firm or Individual name | Donald R. Studebaker, Registration No 32,815 Nixon Peabody LLP 401 9 th Street, N.W. Suite 900 Washington, D.C. 20004-2128 |
| Signature | |
| Date | December 5, 2005 |



Docket No: 740250-894

Serial No: 10/553,959

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Akihiko HIRATSUKA et al.)
Application No. 10/553,959) Art Unit: 3749
Filed: October 19, 2005) Confirmation No. 9879
For: VALVE MOUNT HEATER UNIT)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the accompanying information is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed. However, copies of the listed U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed since it is no longer required according to the July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirement for copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications in national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and international applications entering the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

I, the undersigned, hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the



Docket No: 740250-894

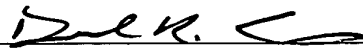
Serial No: 10/553,959

documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this filing which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____



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Date: December 5, 2005



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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | | | | Complete if Known | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Application Number | 10/553,959 |
| | | | | Filing Date | October 19, 2005 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Akihiko HIRATSUKA et al. |
| | | | | Art Unit | 3749 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Unknown |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 740250-894 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials [*] | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number - Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
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|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials [*] | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | JP-4064788 ✓ | 02-28-1992 | Ikedo et al. | | AB |
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| | | | | | | |

| OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials [*] | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
| | | International Search Report dated August 17, 2004 Application No. PCT/JP2004/005567. | |
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|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.